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BLM Releases Environmental Assessment for the Cribbs Gypsum Quarry

BILLINGS -- The Bureau of Land Management has released an environmental assessment concerning a plan to reopen an abandoned gypsum quarry in southern Carbon County. The public has 30 days to review the document along with the company's plan of operations and the agency's proposed Finding of No Significant Impact and Decision Record.

Under the proposal, an old quarry about 8 miles north of Cowley, Wyo., would be reopened in order to mine about 100,000 cubic yards of gypsum. About five acres would be disturbed, and parts of an abandoned haul road would be upgraded. The disturbed areas including the road would be reclaimed after the mining project is concluded next year. Copies of the documents are available from the BLM's Billings Field Office, 5001 Southgate Drive or at www.blm.gov under the "State Highlights" section. In order to be considered, comments need to be received by September 26, 2005. Comments should be sent to: Bureau of Land Management, Attn: Cribbs Gypsum Quarry Project Coordinator, P.O. Box 36800, Billings, MT 59107-3680.

After considering the comments received, BLM will determine the adequacy of the environmental analysis and issue its decision. BLM may revise the environmental assessment or change the decision record as a result of public comments. A copy of the completed assessment and signed decision will be provided to those individuals or organizations submitting comments.